seized and persons arrested in this regard during the last three years are as follows:

Year	Arms seized	Persons arrested
2002	15,710	13,575
2003	13,682	12,294
2004	11,406	8,604

(c) The Government has taken the following steps to check the proliferation of illegal unlicensed arms-

i) State and UT Governments have been requested to make sustained and continuous efforts to unearth illegal arms.

ii) Regular meetings are held with representatives of Police of States/ UTs to monitor and take stock of the situation.

iii) Border management has been strengthened by construction of border roads, security fencing, flood lighting and enhanced surveillance along the international borders.

Cases taken up by NHRC *suo motu*

1627. SHRI JAYANTILAL BAROT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) how many cases have been taken up by NHPC *suo motu* during the last three years;

(b) how many cases were registered against the above *suo motu* taken up cases; and

(c) how many offendrs were punished?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (c) 289 cases have been taken up by the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) *suo motu* during the last three years. Pursuant to the *suo motu* action taken by the NHRC, action against the delinquent officials has been initiated in 59 cases. FIRs have been registered in 54 cases and departmental action initiated in 5 cases. 19 offenders have been punished.